Free power connection under Kutir Jyoti Yojana in Uttaranchal

4294. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttaranchal Government propose to release free power connection to poor families under the Kutir Jyoti Yojana during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the financial help that has been or would be provided by the Centre to the State for the purpose; and

(c) whether any other plan is on anvil under the Rural Electrification Schemes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. Uttaranchal Pradesh Government have informed that 40,450 connections to poor families living below the poverty line under Kutir Jyoti Programme were released during 2002-03 and have planned to release 40,000 connections during the year 2003-04.

(b) Rs. 7.281 crores were sanctioned in the financial year 2002-03 under Kutir Jyoti Programme. During the current year 2003-04, Government of Uttaranchal has proposed an allocation of Rs. 7.20 crores under Kutir Jyoti Programme.

(c) All the un-electrified villages are proposed to be electrified by the year 2005. Government of Uttaranchal proposes to electrify all un-electrified villages by the year 2005 by utilizing assistance available under various programmes including Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY).

Shortage of power in Maharashtra

4295. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is aware that there is a shortage of electricity in Maharashtra and need for a additional electricity projects;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and planning to give additional electricity;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is no provision for Energy Project in Tenth Five Year Plan for Maharashtra State; and